Vein Patterns in Microsorium scandens and Its Allies

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The following new combination is proposed:

MICROSORIUM **scandens** (Forst. f.) Tindale, *comb. nov.*

Polypodium scandens Forst. f., Prodr. 81. 1786; Benth. Fl. Austral. **7**: 770. 1878; Moore & Betche, Handb. Fl. New So. Wales 515. 1893. Lectotype: Without locality, labelled 275 and 437, *Polypodium scandens* (BM); "Society Islands" has been added to the label later.

Phymatodes scandens (Forst. f.) Presl, Tent. Pterid. 196. 1836; Pichi-Sermolli, Webbia **8**: 222. 1951.

Drynaria scandens (Forst. f.) Fée, Gen. Fil. 271. 1852.

Illustration: Domin, Bibl. Bot. **85**: 179, *fig. 40*. 1913, as *Polypodium pustulatum*.

In southeastern Australia there are only two species of *Microsorium*, namely *M. scandens*, which ranges from southeastern Queensland to Victoria, and *M. diversifolium* (Willd.) Copel., occurring in southeastern Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania. Both species are quite common also in New Zealand.

Prof. R. E. Pichi-Sermolli has discussed in detail[1] the reasons why we should revert to the use of the epithet *scandens* for this Australasian fern. After an examination of the type specimens of *Polypodium scandens* Forst. f. and *P. pustulatum* Forst. f. in the British Museum of Natural History, London, I agree with Pichi-Sermolli that the common, sweet-scented species of polypody in the rain-forests of eastern Australia and New Zealand is identical with *Polypodium scandens* Forst. f. Unfortunately, Domin[2] adopted the name *P. pustulatum* Forst. f. for *Microsorium scandens* and used *Polypodium scandens* Labill. for the closely allied species *Microsorium diversifolium*. Following him, Copeland published the new combination *Microsorium pustulatum* (Forst. f.) Copel.

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[1] Webbia 8: 212-222. 1951.
[2] Bibl. Bot. 85: 178. 1913.